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PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

9.96		1. Japanese Office Action dated January 21, 2003, issued in a counterpart application, namely, Appln. No. 2000-020281.

**EXAMINER**

GEORGE ENG

DATE CONSIDERED

5-16-03.

\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.